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17 January 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Director's Lunch with Senator Stuart Symington

l. Today the Director told me of his lunch with Senator Symington, just returned from a visit to Southeast Asia and other areas, during which the Senator raised the matter of efforts by Messrs. Lowenstein and Moose, of his Subcommittee staff, to obtain information regarding clandestine intelligence matters in the field. It was agreed that the Director would draft, subject to the Senator's approval or revision, a message to Lowenstein and Moose in the field along the following lines:

"Talked today with Helms as result your telegram to
me. He assures me that it been long-standing policy to
handle briefing on clandestine intelligence matters only
at Washington Headquarters. He also assures me that you
being given full information on
Questions you have on clandestine intelligence
matters can be taken up with Agency upon your return here."

2. In addition the Senator and Director discussed a number of other matters including the upcoming (27 January) appearance of the Director before the Senate Armed Services Committee. In response to the Director's question, the Senator recommended that in the event of questions on the reorganization of the intelligence community, the Director try to remain as noncommittal as possible.

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